

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph:

[0029] Figure 3A illustrates each gateway machine 216 that runs a server component 320 of a system management framework. The server component 320 is a multi-threaded runtime process that comprises several components: an object request broker (ORB) 310, an authorization service 330, object location service 350 and basic object adapter (BOA) 370. Server component 320 also includes an object library 390. Preferably, the ORB 310 runs continuously, separate from the operating system and it communicates with both server and client processes through separate stubs and skeletons via an inter-process communication (IPC) facility 219. In particular, a secure remote procedure call ~~(PRC)~~ (RPC) is used to invoke operations on remote objects. Gateway machine 216 also includes a thread mechanism 217. The thread mechanism 217 is known in the art and assigns a thread identifier to each request made by a user at a gateway machine 216. The thread identifier may be any alphanumeric representation. The thread identifier is associated with the request so that the server can track the request and send a response to the proper gateway machine 216.